

Message Text

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43

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /024 W

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R 090930Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 970

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (MCGOVERN, GEORGE)

SUBJECT: CODEL MCGOVERN'S VISIT TO IRAN

REF: STATE 62412

1. CODEL MCGOVERN LEFT TEHRAN APRIL 9 AFTER TWO-SAY VISIT DESIGNED TO GIVE NEW CHAIRMAN OF NEAR EAST AND SOUTH ASIA SUBCOMMITTEE OF SFRC ONCE-OVER-LIGHTLY INTRODUCTION TO HIS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY. SENATOR MET WITH MOST IMPORTANT IRANIAN LEADERS, INCLUDING SHAH WHO GAVE HIM FULL HOUR'S AUDIENCE. CODEL ALSO HAD OPPORTUNITY EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH MANY LEADING IRANIAN ACADEMICIANS AND INTELLECTUALS AND WITH CROSS-SECTION OF AMERICAN OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE COMMUNITY. MINISTER OF COURT ALAM GAVE DINNER AT HIS HOME TO WHICH HE INVITED THE IRANIAN "ESTABLISHMENT". IN SHORT, THE GOI WENT OUT OF ITS WAY TO SEE THAT THE SENATOR WAS HONORED IN AN UNCOMMON MANNER.

2. SENATOR AND STAFF WERE IMPRESSED WITH COMPETENCE, CONFIDENCE AND OPTIMISM OF IRANIAN LEADERS AND WITH ENORMOUS CHANGES WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN IRAN SINCE SENATOR'S
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LAST VISIT IN 1962. SENATOR SAID HE EXPECTS MAKE FREQUENT

VISITS TO AREA AND PLANS NEXT TIME TO CONCENTRATE ON
PERSIAN GULF AND SOUTH ASIA. HE WAS INVITED TO RETURN IN
SEPTEMBER TO PARTICIPATE IN SYMPOSIUM ON IRAN CONDUCTED BY
ASPEN INSTITUTE OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES.

3. FROM EMBASSY POINT OF VIEW VISIT WENT SMOOTHLY, AND WE
BELIEVE SEMATOR AND STAFF LEFT WITH MORE POSITIVE AND
REALISTIC IMPRESSIONS OF IRAN AND ITS LEADERS THAN THEY
ARRIVED WITH.
HELMS

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